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LETTER DATED 19 APRIL 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Our government sources have reported the following:

(a) Serb forces have stormed the military barracks in Lukavica and seized all heavy weaponry under United Nations protection;

(b) General Rose informed the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina that the United Nations Protection Force was helpless owing to the fact that more than 100 of its troops are being held hostage by the Serbian forces;

(c) Serb forces seemingly do not expect or fear any United Nations response and their beliefs have been enforced by the lack of action by the United Nations on numerous occasions in which numerous violations of the cease-fire in Sarajevo by Serbian forces (sniping, etc.) occurred.

Secondly, the situation in Gorazde has not changed:

(a) Serb forces have incessantly been pounding Gorazde with heavy artillery. Beside using mortars, our reports indicate that irritant gases are being used to drive the civilian population out of their shelters. There is hardly a place left in Gorazde for people to hide;

(b) Tanks are shooting at civilians from a distance of less than 200 yards. Only one floor of the Gorazde hospital is functional;

(c) The reports indicate that the ammonia tanks have been punctured and ammonia is flowing in the streets, river and air, causing suffering and danger. The population is desperate and the city is in a dire state.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador and Permanent Representative